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CONTINUOUS MODE BALLAST WITH PULSED OPERATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0026] In accordance with one aspect of the present application, a continuous mode electronic ballast for operating an HID lamp includes an inverter circuit configured to generate a control signal. A resonant circuit is operationally coupled to the inverter circuit and to the lamp and configured to generate resonant voltage in response to receiving the control signal generated by the inverter circuit. A clamping circuit is operationally coupled to the resonant circuit to limit the voltage across the resonant circuit to protect components of the ballast. A multiplier circuit is operationally coupled to the resonant circuit to boost the voltage clamped by the clamping circuit to a value sufficient to permit starting of the lamp. The clamping circuit and the multiplier circuit cooperate to facilitate a continuous starting of the lamp.